

Res#______). (replaces 13-02)

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF OPIOID DRUG OVERDOSE THROUGH PRESCRIBER EDUCATION

WHEREAS, sales of prescription opioids in the U.S. nearly quadrupled from 1999 to 2014¹; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, healthcare providers wrote 259 million prescriptions for painkillers, enough for every American adult to have a bottle of pills²; and

WHEREAS, during 2015, drug overdoses accounted for 52,404 U.S. deaths, of those, 63.1% involved an opioid¹; and

WHEREAS, overall, more Americans die every year from drug overdoses than they do in motor vehicle crashes, making nonprescription use of opiates now the second most common cause of substance abuse disorder in the U.S.⁶; and

WHEREAS, as a result, prescription drug abuse prevention is a top priority for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, per 100 people, Idaho healthcare providers prescribed 86 painkiller prescriptions in 2012⁴; and

WHEREAS, Idaho ranked 35th in the nation in 2014 for nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers among persons aged 12 years and older³; and out of the 35 states for which data are available, Idaho ranked 7th in high school students ever using prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription³; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, an Idahoan died every 39 hours from drugs, more than tripling the drug-induced death rate since 2000⁵; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Public Health Districts are responsible to promote and protect the health of Idaho citizens; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Public Health Districts provide services to individuals and families who are affected by prescription drug abuse;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Idaho Public Health Districts seek opportunities to collaborate with stakeholders such as the Office of Drug Policy, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and institutions of higher education, as well as other pertinent community organizations, to prevent the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs. The Idaho Public Health Districts will provide prescriber education on the opioid epidemic and encourage active use of Idaho's Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP).

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Increases in Drug and Opioid-Involved Overdose Deaths -- United States, 2010-2015](#). MMWR 2016; 65(50-51);1445–1452.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Vital Signs: Opioid Painkiller Prescribing --- United States, July, 2014
3. Idaho Office of Drug Policy (2016). Substance Abuse Prevention Needs Assessment, Idaho.
4. IMS, National Prescription Audit (NPATM), 2012.
5. Idaho Vital Statistic. (2013)
6. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Leading Causes of Death – United States 1999-2015.